vi. Facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories have been created to enable exporters to get the garments/textiles pre-tested for conforming to the requirements of importing countries.

vii. The Government has launched a centrally sponsored scheme titled "Apparel Park for Export Scheme" for imparting focused thrust for setting up of apparel manufacturing units of international standards at potential growth centres and to give fillip to exports.

viii. For upgrading infrastructure facilities at important textile centres, a scheme Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme' (TCIDS) has been launched.

ix. The Export Promotion Councils have been undertaking export promotion events like participation in overseas exhibitions/fairs, organizing BSMs abroad, sponsoring trade delegations in consultation with Indian Mission at abroad.

Boosting the handloom and handicraft in J&K

64. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Goverment's consideration to boost handloom and handicraft industry in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether a special package for the purpose has been earmarked for the State any by when the same is expected to be released to the State?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) to (c) The Government of India has been implementing various handloom & handicraft schemes for their development in the States, including the State of J&K. However, to boost the handlooms & handicrafts in the State of J & K, the then Prime Minister announced special Package for the State. The Package has following components:

1. Integrated Project for Development of Wool and Woollen Design and Development Centre

2. Setting up of Weavers' Service Centre

3. Integrated development Package for export of Carpet

4. Integrated development Package for export promotion of handicrafts (other than Carpet)

5. Strengthening of infrastructure support for promotion of Handicraft Sector of J&K (including Carpet)

6. Revival of Kani Shawl.

These components are likely to be completed during 10th Plan.

Performance of Indian players at Olympic Games, 2004

†65. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance of the Indian players at Olympic Games, 2004 has been dismal in all spheres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering any new project to provide incentives in games and develop sports culture among youths;

(d) if so, the outlines of the said projects; and

(e) whether State Governments are also being issued guidelines in respect of the project and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT): (a) and (b) During Athens Olympic Games, Indian sportsperson Major R.V.S. Rathore won a silver medal in shooting. This is the first silver medal won by an individual sportsperson since India's independence. Over the years, the performance of Indian sportspersons in Olympics has been improving. In 1996 and 2000 India won only a bronze medal. No medal could be won in 1984 and 1988 Olympics. Moreover, during the Athens Olympic Games, 2004 in the disciplines of Archery, Shooting and Weightlifting Indian sportspersons were very close to medals and in the disciplines of Athletics they created new national records.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.